



# CITY OF SPOKANE Department of Wastewater Management Industrial Pretreatment Program

# BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMPS) APARTMENT MANAGERS

The City of Spokane Riverside Park Water Reclamation Facility (RPWRF) collects and treats sewage from domestic and industrial sources. Certain activities have the potential to discharge hazardous chemicals and other materials that can have a negative impact on our treatment plant.

## WHAT ARE BMPs?

BMPs are activities and procedures that your business performs to prevent negative impacts at the City of Spokane RPWRF. The BMPs include:

## Painting Activities

- Never clean brushes or rinse paint containers into a street, gutter, or storm drain.
- Water-based paint brushes may be rinsed in a sink that drains to the sanitary sewer (inside drain) after as much paint has been removed as possible.
- Store all painting related products in a covered area away from storm drains and floor drains.
- Keep absorbent pads on hand to clean up any spills.

### Car Washing

- Encourage tenants to take their vehicles to a commercial car wash where the water is filtered and separated from oily residues prior to discharge to the sanitary sewer.
- If tenants must wash their cars on the premises, provide a grassy or graveled area for them to use. Wastewater will filter through soil and vegetation before entering the ground.
- Wash water cannot be put into a storm drain.

### Pet Wastes

- Pet wastes can spread disease and pollutes our water resources.
- Provide and encourage residents to use dog walking areas away from storm drains.
- Make it easy for your tenants to keep your property and our river clean by supplying bags for proper disposal.

### Kitchen Grease

- Grease can build up and cause blockages in your pipes or in the sanitary sewer system.
- Grease blockages can cause sewer backups into the street or into your building.
- Educate your tenants to: pour kitchen grease into a container; scrape or wipe off greasy dishes; throw the grease into the trash; use strainers in sink drains; and don't use in-sink food disposals.

\*\*\*\*\*\*More information on the reverse\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

### Wipes and other "Flushable" products

- Cleaning wipes, baby wipes, and facial tissues, whether they are labeled "flushable" or not, do not disintegrate like toilet paper when flushed. They can get caught on cracks, roots, and pipe joints, build up and cause backups.
- Our sewer system is designed to carry water, human waste, toilet paper and NOTHING else. Solid waste belongs in the trash not in the sewer.
- Let your tenants know what not to flush.

### If you have any questions about your wastewater, please contact us for guidance: City of Spokane Riverside Park Water Reclamation Facility (509) 625-4639

#### IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

Hazardous waste handling contact: Department of Ecology (509) 329-3400

Hazardous spills contact: Spokane Fire Department 9-1-1

Large volume spills that are not hazardous to human health and the environment contact: Sewer Maintenance (509) 625-7900 RPWRF (509) 625-4600 (days) or (509) 625-4610 (after hours)

Proper disposal of materials and recycling contact:

City of Spokane Solid Waste Department (509) 625-7878